



PLACER COUNTY  
**SHERIFF**  
CORONER-MARSHAL



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**EDWARD N. BONNER**  
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

**STEPHEN L. D'ARCY**  
UNDERSHERIFF

## PRESS RELEASE

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: OCTOBER 4, 2001 – 1500 HOURS  
DATE/TIME OF OCCURRENCE: OCTOBER 3, 2001 – 0800 HOURS  
NATURE OF CALL: MARIJUANA GARDEN ERADICATION  
LOCATION OF CALL: REMOTE CANYON TWENTY-THREE MILES EAST  
OF FORESTHILL ON BIG MOSQUITO CREEK  
SUSPECTS: NO SUSPECTS

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### **SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:**

On September 26, 2001, during helicopter overflights, deputies spotted an outdoor marijuana cultivation site on a rugged, forested hillside, on Big Mosquito Creek, about 23 miles east of Foresthill.

On October 3, 2001, members of the Placer County Sheriff's Department Special Operations Unit and Special Enforcement Team inserted 11 deputies into the site. Three abandoned campsites were located around the grow site. No suspects were located but there was evidence that someone had recently tended the marijuana plants.

Evidence located at the scene indicates that at one time someone was living and working on the steep mountainsides where the marijuana was growing. Deputies eradicated multiple grow sites which spread along the creek for about a half a mile. Deputies cut down 4,380 marijuana plants ranging from 2 to 8 feet in height.

The marijuana was airlifted out of the steep, rugged terrain by CHP's H-20 helicopter and taken to a command post for processing. It took deputies about 10 hours to eradicate and remove the 4,380 plants.

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**RELEASED BY: Sergeant Ron Ashford, Special Operations Unit**

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